

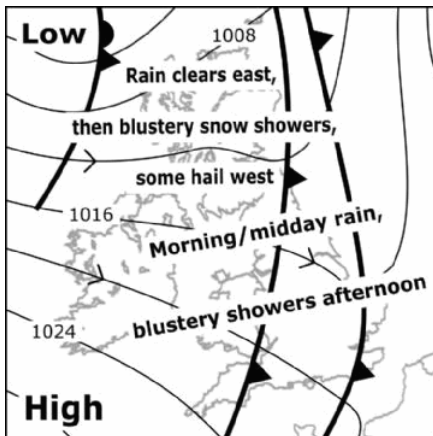
# Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Ericht and Loch Laggan.



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## General Summary for Thursday, 9 April, 2026



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 9 April, 2026**

Rain passes east through Scotland from dawn, followed by colder air and heavy showers with snow on high terrain. The rain passes northwest parts of England and Wales through morning, reaching the Pennines and south Wales midday, clearing east for afternoon showers. Blustery, strong gusts around showers.

### Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Rain then snow showers; blustery, strong gusts later

## Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 9 April, 2026

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	West-southwesterly 20-30mph, quite gusty around showers, approaching 40mph high tops later in the day; trending westerly later too.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Walking inconvenienced in exposure all day, strong buffeting gusts in afternoon showers will challenge balance for periods and bring significant wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Morning rain, afternoon showers, increasingly as snow and hail</b> Rain passes east across through the morning, falling as snow on the high tops, patchy northern Cairngorms. Showers follow the rain, most frequent and heavy in the west, the snowfall level increasingly lowering, to 600m evening, also hail.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Early cloud, lifting to high terrain and increasingly broken</b> Extensive over high terrain into morning, to middle south and western slopes. Lifting and breaking from the west to mostly above 1000m, breaks off the high tops afternoon, but caps returning in showers. Summits may be substantially clear for several hours later in the day.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>10% early, gradually rising to 60%</b>
<b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b>	Overcast early with poor visibility in rain, bursts of bright sunshine breaking out afternoon with very good visibility, though suddenly deteriorating again in showers.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	3 to 5C at dawn, mildest northern Cairngorms east of Ben Macdui. Soon beginning to cool from the west to 0C; east Cairngorms will be slow to cool, locally staying +1C before dusk. Feeling like -10C in strongest wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Just above the summits at dawn, soon lowering from the west, to 900m afternoon/evening, locally higher east.

## Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Friday 10 April	Saturday 11 April
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>  <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Westerly 10-15mph early, shifting southerly and strengthening, towards 45-55mph over high Cairngorms by dusk.  <b>Fairly small in the east at first, but walking increasingly challenging through afternoon with severe wind chill.</b>	Southerly 25-35mph, quite variable, and stronger at dawn, 50mph over high tops.  <b>Walking inconvenienced all day, a chilly feel in exposure; more challenging conditions at first.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Substantially dry</b> Precipitation unlikely until late in the day, when patchy rain and snow arrives from the south, falling as snow above 600-700m, and mostly confined to Drumochter/south Cairngorm slopes.	<b>Snow showers, mostly south</b> Snow at dawn, rain below 500m, tending to break into showers through morning, mostly on southern areas, at times passing further north. Later afternoon may see a window of dry weather.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>  <b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>Cloud builds on high terrain afternoon</b>  Some patchy mist in glens/corries in the morning, this soon lifting and dissipating for cloud-free hills into afternoon. With time afternoon, patchy cloud returns to high terrain, mostly central highlands where bases approach 800m by evening. North Cairngorms stay largely clear.  <b>80%</b>	<b>Early cloud breaks into banks on high tops</b>  Fairly extensive over the high Cairngorms at dawn, lowest bases to the south, around 800m. Soon beginning to break from the west into passing banks around showers, base lifting to largely above 1000-1100m, clear periods likely, but only brief highest tops.  <b>20%, rising to 50%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly sunny through morning, high cloud building afternoon, more often cloudy by dusk. Good visibility.	A cloudy dawn, bursts of sun soon breaking from the west, most north. Very good visibility, though more often poor on southern slopes in showers.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>  <b>Freezing Level</b>	-2C, rising to +1C. Later, feeling like -13 to -15C in wind.  500-600m from dawn, light frosts likely in glens too. Gradually lifting to 900-1000m.	Variable between -1 to +1C. May rise to 2C northern Cairngorms. Feeling like -10 to -12C in direct wind. Around 900m, though locally variable, and tending to rise slightly.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 10 April, 2026

An unsettled weekend with rain, showers, and wind temperatures, though a few bright spells will break out. Variable weather regimes next week: Atlantic west-southwesterly winds likely dominant, with low pressure to the northwest of the country, bringing cloud, rain, and mild temperatures, often followed by sun, showers, and cooler temperatures; rain will be increasingly common to the high Munros, but the snowfall level will lower too during periods of cooler weather, and perhaps to high Lakeland fells, though any snow unlikely to accumulate here.

In the longer term, indications of high pressure increasingly building, bringing drier and brighter conditions with mild days to England and Wales and occasionally Scotland too, though the risk remains of occasional rain and cooler temperatures.

### Forecast issued at 7:14 on Thursday, 9 April, 2026

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through Mountaineering Scotland with the support of sportscotland. Forecasts are issued daily by 16:30 and are kept under review and amended as necessary. However, expected conditions can still change after issue. © Copyright Mountain Weather Information Service, 2026.